

REMARKS

This application contains claims 1, 4-19 and 22-37. Claims 1, 19 and 35 are hereby amended. No new matter has been added. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 4-7, 10, 11, 19, 20, 22-25, 28 and 29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Lopresti et al. (U.S. Patent 5,625,721) in view of Motoiwa (U.S. Patent 6,343,149) and further in view of Sultan (U.S. Patent 6,270,406). Independent claims 1, 19 and 35 have been amended in order to clarify the distinction of the present invention over the cited references.

Lopresti describes the use of a certificate, which is calculated on the text of a document to be reproduced, and which can be used to detect an error in the reproduced document (abstract). In the Background of the Invention, Lopresti describes error detection based on dictionary lookup, but explicitly teaches against this method of verifying OCR results (col. 2, lines 45-58).

Motoiwa describes a document character reading system, in which a local station and a central station both perform OCR on the same image data, using different recognition methods. A decision component decides whether the character data recognized by the local and central stations match and, if so, output the data as correct. Otherwise, a correction component is used to correct the data (abstract).

Sultan describes a tamper-resistant lottery ticket, which comprises a plurality of game fields that can be chosen by a lottery player. The game fields include a security code, which may be read and used to ensure that the proper number of game field contents are revealed, and the lottery ticket is valid (abstract). Ticket distributors are provided with scanners to verify, *inter alia*, that only certain numbers of the fields are revealed, and the covering security bar codes of the rest of the fields are not violated (col. 3, lines 20-26). If the scratch-off material has been removed from more than the permitted number of fields, the ticket is invalidated (col. 7, lines 24-29).

Claim 1 recites a method for document processing, in which images of document fields received over a network from a client are processed to code information contained in the fields. Directory look-up is used to check whether the information is coded correctly. The checked,

coded information is returned to the client, from whom payment is received according to the number of fields that were processed. The claim has been amended to recite that the client pays for this service based upon a price per field processed, as stated in the specification (page 4, lines 17-19). Claim 19 recites apparatus that operates on principles similar to the method of claim 1, and has been amended in like fashion.

As noted by the Examiner (page 4, lines 8-11, of the Official Action), Lopresti and Motoiwa fail to disclose a method in which checked, coded information is returned to the client, and payment is received from the client according to the number of fields, as recited in claims 1 and 19. It thus goes without saying that neither Lopresti nor Motoiwa teaches or suggests that payment might be received from the client based upon a price per field processed, as stated in the amended claims. Sultan does not teach receiving payment from a client for a service, as recited in claims 1 and 19, but rather disbursing payment to a lottery winner. Furthermore, Sultan's scanner detects the number of fields revealed on the lottery ticket simply to indicate whether the ticket is valid or not. Sultan thus makes no suggestion of receiving payment from a client based upon a price per field processed, as required by the amended claims.

Therefore, claims 1 and 19, as amended, are believed to be patentable over the cited art. In view of the patentability of these independent claims, dependent claims 4-7, 10, 11, 22-25, 28 and 29 are believed to be patentable, as well.

Claims 8, 9, 26 and 27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Lopresti in view of Motoiwa and Sultan and further in view of Bradford (U.S. Patent 5,805,747) or Medina (U.S. Patent 5,889,897). In view of the patentability of amended claims 1 and 19, as explained above, dependent claims 8, 9, 26 and 27 are also believed to be patentable.

Claims 12-18 and 30-37 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Lopresti in view of Motoiwa and Sultan and further in view of Brown (U.S. Patent 6,498,612). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of claims 12-18, 30-34 and 37. Claim 35 has been amended to clarify the distinction of this aspect of the present invention over the cited art.

Claim 12 recites a method for processing forms including data in a predefined domain, using a directory that is defined for the domain by selecting data specific to the domain from one

or more general databases. Claims 30 and 37, respectively, recite apparatus and a computer software product that operate on similar principles.

With regard claim 12, the Examiner stated that Lopresti, Motoiwa and Sultan do not disclose the limitation of defining a directory of data relating to a predefined domain by selecting data specific to the domain from one or more general databases. The Examiner maintained that this limitation is disclosed in Brown (col. 6, lines 35-55). Brown describes a user interface architecture that operates by storing user interface information in a display database, preferably as part of a directory services database (abstract). The passage in Brown that was cited by the Examiner describes how directory information is provided on a network by a directory service. According to Brown, a directory service is like a phone directory, which is used to find information in a distributed computing environment (col. 6, lines 38-43). There is no mention or suggestion in this passage of selecting data specific to a given domain from one or more general databases, as required by claim 12. Applicant has carefully reviewed Brown's entire disclosure, and found no teaching that dealt with any sort of selection of domain-specific data from a general database for inclusion in a domain-related directory.

Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 12, 30 and 37 are patentable over the cited art. In view of the patentability of these independent claims, dependent claims 13-18 and 31-34 are believed to be patentable, as well.

Claim 35 recites a computer software product that operates on principles similar to the method of claim 1. This claim was rejected on rationale similar to the grounds of rejection of claim 1, and has now been amended in like manner to the amendment of claim 1. Therefore, claim 35 is believed to be patentable over the cited art for the reasons stated above in reference to amended claim 1. In view of the patentability of claim 35, claim 36, which depends from claim 35, is also believed to be patentable.

Applicant has studied the additional reference made of record by the Examiner, and believes the claims currently pending in the present patent application to be patentable over this additional reference, whether the reference is taken individually or in any combination.

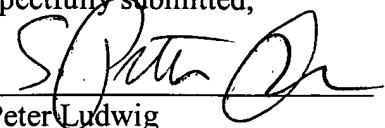
Applicant believes the amendments and remarks presented hereinabove to be fully responsive to all of the grounds of rejection raised by the Examiner. In view of these

amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that all of the claims in the present application are in order for allowance. Notice to this effect is hereby requested.

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Respectfully submitted,

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